

HOUSE RESOLUTION 14 of the First Extraordinary Session
By Kent

A RESOLUTION to honor James Roy Vinson on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should recognize those who in their years of work have performed with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion; and

WHEREAS, James Roy Vinson is one such outstanding person who has served with alacrity and acuity for over 43 years with the state of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, James Vinson exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a great Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, he was born on November 12, 1930, the son of James Vinson and Audie Heath Vinson and brother of 5 elder sisters; and

WHEREAS, he graduated from Dover High School in 1948, received his B.S. and Master's degrees from Austin Peay State University in 1961 and 1962 respectively, and received a fellowship to attend the University of Georgia to pursue a Ph.D. in Vocational Education; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vinson is a veteran of the U.S. Navy from which he received an honorable discharge. He taught Industrial Arts at Fort Campbell High School following military service and served as Atomic Energy Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, he is committed to the Industrial Arts and vocational education and he worked as a professor in the Industrial Arts and Industrial Technology departments at Austin Peay and served as department chairman; and

WHEREAS, following his tenure at Austin Peay, Mr. Vinson was self-employed as a contractor and began working at the Tennessee Department of Education. He has been employed at the department on two separate terms and is retiring from his current position as Director of Program Enhancement; and

WHEREAS, he is an active and vital part of the community and his profession, participating in numerous civic organizations, including the Rotary Club; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vinson has always been a staunch advocate of vocational education and he has been described as the state "expert" on the Carl D. Perkins Vocational and Technical Education Act and affectionately called "Mr. Blue Suede Shoes"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Vinson is most appreciative of the love and support of his wife of 41 years, Betsy, and their 3 sons, James Russell, James Wallace and Jonathan; and

WHEREAS, he has evinced his devout religious faith as a member of the First Baptist Church in Clarksville, where he has served as a Sunday school teacher for over 25 years and also as a church deacon; and

WHEREAS, his adroit qualities include the uncommon ability to motivate others to fully realize their potential, perhaps the most valuable of all skills; and

WHEREAS, his presence will surely be missed among his many co-workers and colleagues in his profession and although his position will be filled upon his retirement, he can never be replaced; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we extend to James Roy Vinson our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.